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Docket No. 62894(71589)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Rioux et al.

Confirmation No.: 1401

U.S.S.N.: 09/935,487

Art Unit: 3738

FILED: August 23, 2001

Examiner: B. Pellegrino

FOR: MAINTAINING AN OPEN PASSAGEWAY THROUGH A BODY LUMEN

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3738**

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

This is a response to the final Office action mailed February 15, 2005.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.

A **Conclusion** begins on page 9.

**Certificate of Express Mailing**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. **EV492344748US**, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: April 15, 2005

Signature:

*Lakeisha Bryant* (Lakeisha Bryant)